

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

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USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 4279

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR: WORKING GROUP CHAIRMAN'S DRAFT ON IMPLICATIONS
OF REVISED DATA: AIR FORCE MANPOWER

REF: USNATO 4253

1. ACTING WORK GROUP CHAIRMAN AT AUGUST 6 MEETING INVITED
COMMENTS ON SUBJECT DRAFT (REFTEL). UK REP CIRCULATED COMMENTS,
WHICH ARE REPRODUCED AT END OF THIS MESSAGE. NETHERLANDS REP
SAID HE WAS NOT PREPARED TO COMMENT ON PAPER, WHICH ONLY RECENTLY
CIRCULATED. U.S. REP SUGGESTED DISCUSSION BE POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT
MEETING. FIRST LOOK AT CHAIRMAN'S DRAFT NOW SET FOR AUGUST 14.
MISSION REQUESTED GUIDANCE IN REFTEL.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

MBFR WORKING GROUP

AIR MANPOWER

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UK COMMENTS ON SITCEN 0103 OF 1 AUGUST 1974

1. PARAGRAPH 6. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT A THIRD ISSUE HAS TO BE
EXAMINED WHICH SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN A NEW SUB PARAGRAPH C:

"C. THE VALUE (IF ANY) TO BE GAINED BY THE INCLUSION OF ELEMENTS OF AIR MANPOWER AS A MAKE-WEIGHT FOR ASYMMETRICAL GROUND FORCE REDUCTIONS."

2. PARAGRAPH 8.

A. LINE 1. INSERT "AIRCRAFT" BEFORE "STRENGTHS"

B. LINE 3. DELETE "AIR FORCES" AND INSERT "AIRCRAFT"

C. LAST SENTENCE. DELETE "SUCH CONSULTATION" AND INSERT "THEIR GUIDANCE ON TACTICAL AIRCRAFT REDUCTIONS ONLY".

3. PARAGRAPH 9, LINE 1. DELETE "ASSESSMENTS" INCORPORATE "DATA".

4. PARAGRAPH 9, SIXTH SENTENCE. DELETE SENTENCE STARTING "THE WP AIR FORCES" AND INSERT "WITH THE EXCEPTION OF GDR GROUND-TO-AIR DEFENCE SYSTEMS, SUCH DUTIES IN THE WP ARE MOSTLY CARRIED OUT BY GROUND FORCES WHO ALSO SUPPLY CONSIDERABLE GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES".

5. PARA 11. LAST SENTENCE BEFORE FIRST SUB PARA. AFTER "INDIGENOUS AIR FORCES IN THE NGA" ADD "AND EVEN MORE SO BY STATIONED FORCES".

6. PARA 11. ADD NEW SUB PARA F
"F. LEVEL OF TRAINING".

7. PARAGRAPH 12, LINE 5. SHOULD REFER TO PARA 11(C) TO (E).

8. PARAGRAPH 13. THIS DEDUCTION IS TOO SLICK. ONE HAS FIRST TO GET EACH NATION TO EXAMINE THE EFFECT OF VARIOUS LEVELS OF AIR MANPOWER CUTS ON ITS OWN AIR CAPABILITY (EG, COULD IT THIN-OUT BY SAY 2 1/2 PERCENT OR 5 PERCENT WITHOUT AFFECTING AIR COMBAT CAPABILITY SERIOUSLY?) AND THEN SEE WHAT SLACK (IF ANY) NATO HAS IN AGGREGATE, BEFORE LEAPING TO SUCH CATEGORIC ASSERTION.. IF, FOR EXAMPLE, NATO COULD AFFORD CUTS IN AIR MANPOWER AT 5 PERCENT WITHOUT AFFECTING SIGNIFICANTLY AIR COMBAT CAPABILITY, THE 10,000 MEN SO SAVED COULD PERHAPS PROVIDE A VALUABLE
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MAKE-WEIGHT IN ADDITION TO OR IN SUBSTITUTE FOR SAY, OPTION 3 TO HELP SECURE WP ACCEPTANCE TO THE TABLED NATO GROUND FORCE REDUCTION PROPOSALS. IT MUST ALSO BE REMEMBERED THAT IF OUR REVISION AT PARA 9 (SEE PARA 4 ABOVE) IS ACCEPTED, EQUAL PERCENTAGE AIR MANPOWER CUTS SHOULD HAVE A GREATER PROPORTIONAL EFFECT ON WP AIR COMBAT CAPABILITY THAN ON NATO'S AIR FORCES WHICH APPEAR TO HAVE A LARGER ADMINISTRATIVE TAIL(THE WP'S TAIL IS PROVIDED BY THE ARMY). MCAULIFFE

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